

Message Text

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----- 043855

R 222350Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: PORTS OF ENTRY FOR AEROFLOT CHARTER FLIGHT
CREWMEN

REF: A) MOSCOW 6834, B) MOSCOW 8000

1. DURING AUG. 21 CONVERSATION AT DEPARTMENT, SOVEMBASSY
CONSOFFS Y.K. GALISHNIKOV AND S.V. KRUGLOV REQUESTED THAT
USG ISSUE VISAS VALID FOR ENTRY AT DETROIT, CHICAGO, PHIL-
ADELPHIA AND BOSTON TO AEROFLOT CREWMEN OPERATING CHARTER
FLIGHTS TO THOSE CITIES. KRUGLOV SAID THAT BEGINNING IN
SEPTEMBER A NUMBER OF SUCH OFF-ROUTE AEROFLOT CHARTER
FLIGHTS ARE PLANNED. HE SAID THAT IN RECIPROCITY PAN AM
WILL BE OPERATING ADDITIONAL CHARTERS, BUT BY PAN AM'S
CHOICE WILL CONTINUE TO LAND ONLY AT MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD.

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2. AS EMBASSY AWARE, SUCH OFF-ROUTE CHARTER FLIGHTS
REQUIRE CAB APPROVAL, AND THIS CABLE CONCERNS VISA QUESTION
ONLY WITHOUT ADDRESSING QUESTIONS OF USG APPROVAL OF
FLIGHTS AND PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTING PERMISSION TO LAND IN

CLOSED AREAS (I.E., DETROIT).

3. SOVIET VISA REQUEST CONSISTS, IN EFFECT, OF REQUEST THAT D VISAS ISSUED AEROFLOT CREWMEN BE VALID FOR ENTRY AT SIX POSSIBLE PORTS-OF-ENTRY--THE ABOVE FOUR IN ADDITION TO PRESENT APPROVED PORTS NEW YORK AND DULLES. USG MIGHT ACCOMMODATESOVIETS BY CONTINUING TO LIMIT AEROFLOT CREWMEN'S D VISAS TO TWO PORTS BUT PERMIT SUBSTITUTIONS OF REQUESTED PORTS ON AD HOC BASIS. SUCH ARRANGEMENT WOULD, HOWEVER, ADD TO WORKLOAD OF AMEMBASSY WITHOUT GAINING ANYTHING FOR US. WE ARE NOT INCLINED TO GIVE SOVIETS SOMETHING FOR NOTHING, AND EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONSULT PAN AM MOSCOW TO DETERMINE IF THERE IS ANYTHING WE MIGHT ASK FOR IN RECIPROCITY AS SOVIET REQUEST IS BEING CONSIDERED.

4. IF THERE IS NOTHING SUITABLE TO REQUEST FOR PAN AM IN RECIPROCITY AT THIS TIME, WE MIGHT ASK FOR ADDITIONAL PORTS FOR PAN AM CREWMEN FOR POSSIBLE USE IN FUTURE YEARS, BUT ALSO MAINTAIN LINKAGE OF AIRCRAFT CREWMEN PORTS-OF-ENTRY-AND-EXIT WITH ISSUE OF PORTS FOR CERTAIN DIPLOMATS AND OFFICIAL TRAVELLERS (SEE REF B). LINKAGE OF TWO WOULD BALANCE SOVIETS CURRENT REQUEST, IN WHICH THEY WOULD GAIN MORE BECAUSE OF MORE DIVERSE COMMERCIAL AIR ROUTES, WITH DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PORTS ISSUE, IN WHICH US WOULD GAIN MORE BECAUSE OF MORE DIVERSE USE OF PORTS FOR REASONS OF GEOGRAPHY. SPECIFICALLY, DEPARTMENT MIGHT REPLY TO SOVIET EMBASSY ALONG LINES OF FOLLOWING:

5. QUOTE USG IS PREPARED TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO SOVIET REQUEST TO GRANT AEROFLOT CREWMEN FOUR SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL PORTS-OF-ENTRY ON CREWMEN VISAS, BUT USG OF COURSE WOULD WISH RECIPROCITY. USG PROPOSES NEW YORK - DULLES - DETROIT - CHICAGO - PHILADELPHIA - BOSTON IN EXCHANGE FOR MOSCOW - LENINGRAD - KIEV - TASHKENT - TALLINN - VLADIVOSTOK. DETROIT AND VLADIVOSTOK WOULD BALANCE IN THAT BOTH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ARE IN CLOSED AREAS. HOWEVER, SINCE PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS HAS NO PLANS AT THIS TIME FOR CHARTER FLIGHTS TO SOVIET CITIES OTHER THAN MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD, US SIDE WILL DERIVE NO BENEFIT IN NEAR FUTURE FROM RECIPROCAL INCREASE IN PORTS FOR AIRCRAFT CREWMEN. FOR THAT REASON USG REQUESTS CURRENT AGREEMENT TO ITS PENDING PROPOSAL FOR A RECIPROCAL INCREASE IN PORTS FOR CERTAIN DIPLOMATS AND OFFICIAL TRAVELLERS. THAT PROPOSAL WAS PRESENTED TO MFA IN US EMBASSY NOTE NUMBER 621 OF JUNE 9, 1975. END QUOTE.

6. EMBASSY'S VIEWS ARE REQUESTED. ROBINSON

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